

Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana

A Division of the



Comprehensive Community Plan

County: Whitley

LCC: Drug-Free Indiana

Date Due: January 31, 2015

Date Submitted: February 17, 2015

New Plan X ☐

Plan Update ☐



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County Commissioners: Whitley County Government Center

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Plan Summary

To create a drug-free environment in Whitley County through education in our citizenry, formal assessment of needs, coordination of local and surrounding area services, strategic use of prevention plans, and incorporation of a consistent justice plan.

History: Whitley County Drug-Free Indiana Coalition was formed in and has attempted to include representatives from areas of interests such as youth, parents, religious, business, media, schools, youth-serving organizations, civil and volunteer groups, health care professionals, juvenile justice, Office of Family and Children, law enforcement (city, county and state), and treatment centers. The coalition works with these representatives to address substance abuse issues facing Whitley County. Since its formation, the coalition has held monthly meetings with an average attendance of 25 community members, which includes youth representatives from the two area high schools. The coalition serves as the recognized Local Coordinating Council (LCC) for the Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana. The coalition operates primarily as a channeling agency for the distribution of funds to provide for drug and alcohol prevention, treatment and law enforcement activities.

According to the most recent published census, the following data represents the make-up of Whitley County, which is a rural community in northeast Indiana:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Population | <u>33,292</u> |
| Households | <u>14,346</u> |
| Families | <u>13,094</u> |
| Persons below poverty level | 8.2% |
| Median Household Income | <u>\$51,914</u> |
| Average Household Size | <u>2.51</u> |

The largest city in Whitley County is Columbia City. Other communities in the County include Churubusco, South Whitley, Larwill, and several small unincorporated areas. The County has three school systems consisting of: Whitley County Consolidated in Columbia City and the surrounding area; Smith-Green Community Schools in Churubusco, which is joint with a Noble

County township; and Whitko Community Schools in South Whitley, which includes two townships in Kosciusko County.

Summary of the Comprehensive Community Plan: Whitley County Drug-Free Indiana identified three problems to be addressed in the coming year. They are:

1. Substance abuse among youth and adults continues to be a problem in Whitley County (WC).
2. There continues to be a high rate of drug and alcohol related criminal activity in the county.
3. Individuals who abuse substances continue to seek affordable treatment, yet many people are uninsured or underinsured and lack the financial resources to obtain treatment.

Following approval by the Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana, Whitley County Drug Free Indiana (WCDFI) will work with community organizations to plan and implement programs which address the problems and objectives identified in the plan. The County Commissioners will have final approval of funding allocations from the County Drug-Free Communities Fund to support such programs. Organizations and agencies receiving funding from WCDFI will be required to report their progress and use of funding at the monthly meetings. In addition, the monthly minutes will be posted on the Whitley County Drug Free Indiana webpage which will also include the monthly report.

Membership List

County LCC Name: Whitley County Drug Free Indiana

| # | Name | Organization | Race | Gender | Category |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------------|------|--------|-----------------|
| 1 | Anderson, Megan | Probation Department | W | F | Justice |
| 2 | Archbold, Gary | Drug Task Force | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 3 | Archbold, Marcella | Community Corrections | W | F | Justice |
| 4 | Baxter, Elizabeth | Troy Center | W | F | Education |
| 5 | Brice, Bill | Drug Task Force | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 6 | Burney, Vicki | Community Corrections | W | F | Justice |
| 7 | Carpenter, Haley | Bowen Center | W | F | Treatment |
| 8 | Christie, Jen | Probation Department | W | F | Justice |
| 9 | Christie, Mike | Sheriff's Department | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 10 | Dinse, Leslie | Bowen Center | W | F | Treatment |
| 11 | Gatton, Marcus | Sheriff's Department | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 12 | Harrold, Karlie | Probation Department | W | F | Justice |
| 13 | Hatcher, Patricia | The Center | W | F | Education |
| 14 | Hockemeyer, Gregory | Law Firm | W | M | Justice |
| 15 | Jensen-Kelley, Julie | Community Corrections | W | F | Justice |
| 16 | Martin, Sean | Sheriff's Department | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 17 | Meyers, Ashley | Department of Child Services | W | F | Other |
| 18 | Mills, Andrew | Indiana State Police Detective | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 19 | Moser, Dale | Pastor | W | M | Other |
| 20 | Motter, Amy | Probation Department | W | F | Justice |
| 21 | Noble, Jan | Addiction Recovery Center | W | M | Treatment |
| 22 | Persons, Sharon | (retired) Whitley Co. | W | F | Other |
| 23 | Pope, Krista | Troy Center | W | F | Education |
| 24 | Prickett, Nancy | Department of Child Services | W | F | Other |
| 25 | Salmon, Andrea | Whitley Co Consolidated Schools | W | F | Education |
| 26 | Smeltzer, Ryan | Community Corrections | W | M | Justice |
| 27 | Smith, Chelsey | Department of Child Services | W | F | Other |
| 28 | Snyder, Jill | LCC Coordinator | W | F | Other |
| 29 | Spencer, Jason | Sheriff's Department | W | M | Law Enforcement |
| 30 | Swaidner, Jamie | Bowen Center | W | F | Treatment |
| 31 | Trier, Nicole | Troy Center | W | F | Education |
| 32 | Troyer, Vicki | Whitko High School | W | F | Education |
| 33 | Walters, Rhonda | Churubusco High School | W | F | Education |

Julie Jensen-Kelley and Gregory Hockemeyer serve as Co-Directors for the Whitley County Drug-Free Indiana, LCC.

Problem Identification

A. Problem Statement #1: Substance abuse among youth and adults continues to be a problem in Whitley County (WC).

B. Supportive Data:

- 1. Whitley County Prosecutor's Office reported formal juvenile petition filings:
2014 – 48**
- 2. Whitley County Probation Department reported the following number of juveniles referred to the department:
2014 – 141**
- 3. Whitley County Probation Department reported the following number of juveniles referred to the department for drug and/or alcohol use:
2014 – 35**
- 4. Whitley Superior Court Alcohol and Drug Program reported the number of adults in substance abuse programs were as follows:
2014 – 381**
- 5. Whitley Superior Court Alcohol and Drug Program reported the number of indigent adults in substance abuse programs were as follows:
2014 – 167**

End of Year 1 Update:

End of Year 2 Update:

Final Update (end of Year 3):

C. Goals:

- 1. There will be a reduction of substance abuse referrals among youth and adults by 10%.**

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

Final Report (end of Year 3):**D. Objectives:**

1. Support alternative activities for youth.
2. Support prevention and education programs provided through schools and other community organizations.
3. Continue to support alternative education.
4. Continue to support school based activities.
5. Support community initiatives and program planning that identify and prevent substance abuse problems in youth and adults in Whitley County.

End of Year 1 Update:**End of Year 2 Update:****Final Update (end of Year 3):**

A. Problem Statement #2: There continues to be a high rate of drug and alcohol related criminal activity in the county.

B. Supportive Data:

1. Whitley County Prosecutor's Office reported the following number of adult OWI arrests:
2014 – 178
2. Whitley County Prosecutor's Office reported the following number of adult drug arrests:
2014 – 138
3. Whitley County Prosecutor's Office reported the following number of public intoxication arrests:
2014 – 4
4. Whitley County Law Enforcement reported the following number of crashes involving drugs and/or alcohol:
2014 – 39
5. Whitley County Law Enforcement reported the following number of fatal accidents involving drugs and/or alcohol:
2014 – 3

End of Year 1 Update:

End of Year 2 Update:

Final Update (end of Year 3):

C. Goals:

1. There will be a 10% increase in arrests for drug-related crimes.
2. There will be a 10% increase in arrests for alcohol-related crimes.

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

Final Report (end of Year 3):

D. Objectives:

1. Support jail programs.
2. Continue to support efforts of the Whitley County Adult Work Release Facility.
3. Support local law enforcement agencies in addressing alcohol and drug offenses.
4. Support local judicial agencies in addressing drug and alcohol offenses.

End of Year 1 Update:

End of Year 2 Update:

Final Update (end of Year 3):

A. Problem Statement #3: Individuals who abuse substances continue to seek affordable treatment, yet many people are uninsured or underinsured and lack the financial resources to obtain treatment.

B. Supportive Data:

- 1. The Bowen Center Treatment Facility reported the following number of adults in substance abuse programming:
2014 – 165**
- 2. The Bowen Center Treatment Facility reported the following number of juveniles in substance abuse programming:
2014 – 10**
- 3. The Addiction Recovery Center Treatment Facility reported the following number of adults in substance abuse programming:
2014 – 17**
- 4. The Bowen Center Treatment Facility reported:

2014: 107 individuals reported being at 100% of the poverty level, 23 at 150% poverty, 24 at 200% poverty and 153 were below 200% poverty level.**
- 5. The Addiction Recovery Center Treatment Facility reported of the 20 clients in substance abuse programs in 2014: 4 individuals being at 100% of the poverty level; 2 at 150% poverty level, 5 at 200% poverty level and 11 were below 200% of the poverty level.**

End of Year 1 Update:

End of Year 2 Update:

Final Update (end of Year 3):

C. Goals:

- 1. The number of adults in substance abuse treatment will increase by 15%.**

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

Final Report (end of Year 3):**D. Objectives:**

1. Continue to support effective outcome-based treatment initiatives.
2. Support community initiatives related to housing individuals with drug and alcohol related problems.
3. Support programs that provide treatment services to the financially disadvantaged.
4. Support AA and NA Groups.
5. Raise awareness of the treatment services available in Whitley County.

End of Year 1 Update:**End of Year 2 Update:****Final Update (end of Year 3):**

Next Comprehensive Community Plan Update Due: January 2016.

Disclaimer:

You agree that the information provided within this Plan is subject to the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions may be modified at any time and from time to time; the date of the most recent changes or revisions will be established by the Commission and sent electronically to all Local Coordinating Councils.

Terms and Conditions:

The information and data provided is presented as factual and accurate. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding the data submitted within the Plan. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

The Local Drug Free Communities Fund must be spent according to the goals identified within the plan. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding funds that are collected, allocated, and disbursed within the county. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

Initials: JS